

OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

CHANNELS

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CLASSIFICATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

002330Z

CITE

CIA/WHSS

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

35191

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO,
STATE RCI//ATTENTION OPS CTR FOR MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION
CIA REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS
INVOLVED

ITEM NO: 3

DATE: 8 AUG 74

SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT SUFFERS RELAPSE

REF: FBIS 84, PRAGUE, 081920Z AUG 74, UNCLAS

PRAGUE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT 78-YEAR OLD PRESIDENT SVOBODA
HAS SUFFERED A RELAPSE AND IS BACK IN THE HOSPITAL.

SVOBODA WAS UNDER INTENSIVE CARE FOR A "FAILING OF HIS
RESPIRATORY AND CIRCULATORY SYSTEMS" DURING MOST OF THE SPRING.
WHEN HE WAS RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL IN LATE JUNE, MEDICAL
OPINION HELD THAT HE WAS NO LONGER CAPABLE OF INNOVATIVE
THINKING OR ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGEMENT.

PREMIER
STROUGAL HAS EXERCISED SVOBODA'S PRESIDENTIAL
DUTIES--AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE CONSTITUTION--SINCE MARCH 28.

SHOULD SVOBODA DIE, THE CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERSHIP WILL HAVE

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

E 2 IMPDET

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TO COPE WITH THE QUESTION OF PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION. CURRENT
ODDS CONTINUE TO FAVOR THE ELECTION OF PARTY CHIEF GUSTAV HUSAK
TO THE PRESIDENCY AND HIS HOLDING THE TWO POSTS CONCURRENTLY.
E2 IMPDET.H

{SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: E, EUR DIV, NIO [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

DATE: 8 AUG 74
ORIG: [REDACTED] /WHSS 25X1A9a
UNIT: CIA OPS CTR
EXT: 9340

[REDACTED]

25X1A9a